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# Meeting Minutes

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**Meeting  
organized by** Andrea Cavalli,  
Julien Poffet

**Participants** Paolo Calafiura,  
Yushu Yao

**Date** August 28, 2008

**Office** 50B-3215

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## Subjects

- We presented a first prototype of VML. We discussed about the command line interface and the ways to save the entries.
- We revised the way to communicate with a remote repository. The user don't really need to publish his entries into a central repository. He just needs to copy them to a shared network place. Because of that, we dropped the "publish" command and we adapted the "export".
- When the user executes the "export" command by giving a network path, VML must export the entry using SCP. The user may have to authenticate himself.
- The "get" command should work with SCP and HTTP, depending on the format of the address given by the user. If the user executes the command by specifying a network path, VML will transfer the entry using SCP. If the user specifies an HTTP URL, VML will use the HTTP protocol (probably using the "wget" command).
- The "get" command should store the entries into a (customizable) default directory if the user doesn't specify a target path.
- We no longer need a VML service. A centralized/shared repository will be manually managed. The centralized repository may actually be a web server (like CernVM) or a common network place.
- The names of the entries are unique inside a repository. When the user executes an "import" or a "get" command, he should be able to choose a name for the entry to add into the repository.
- The snapshot management seems to be more difficult than the first impression. The user may manually take snapshots (with the Xen/VMware interface, for instance) and this probably will invalidate the entries in the repository which are associated to the same virtual machine. We will then start the implementation with the VM disk copy.
- To keep the size of the VM disk copies smaller, we should not save the /tmp and the swap into them.
- It is possible to do differential disk copies of the VMware disk image files using the "vmware-diskmgr" command.
- When the user executes the "downloadCernVM" command, VML should allow to automatically copy user-specified files into the virtual machine.
- Mr. Calafiura proposes to provide a first version of VML to the CernVM team at end September. The CernVM team could then give us a feedback on the application.